

PRESS RELEASE 5/1/15

FOR INFORMATION: Catherine Owens 845-222-2268, Owens music@aol.com



My name is Catherine Owens and I am running for the office of Sullivan County Legislator for District 4, which includes Phillipsport, Summitville, Burlingham, Bloomingburg and Winterton. I plan to run on the Republican and the Rural Heritage Party lines.

Many people in my district have been calling me and asking me to run for office because they currently feel they don't have a voice. I consider my candidacy an honor and a wonderful opportunity to help my District.

As a Bloomingburg resident and a longtime small business owner in the area, for twenty years. I am active with the Wurtsboro Arts Alliance. I am a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow, and a professional musician. I am the author of two books and I have received citation awards from the Governor of New York and from the municipal council of Newark, New Jersey, for my work promoting literacy. After graduating from Vassar College, I developed ties to New Orleans where I did my graduate work at the New Orleans Institute for the Performing Arts. I am particularly attuned to tourism and the arts as driving forces of the economy. My interests in scuba diving and in nature, and my experience as a seasoned traveler, give me a strong awareness of ecotourism as an economic engine with a light footprint that our beautiful area provides.

Mamakating is the gateway to Sullivan County. This is an exciting time for our economic revival. I want to help the development of small businesses like microbreweries, vineyards, Bed-and-Breakfasts, restaurants, gift shops and other tourist-related businesses that can flourish through enhancing a family orientation aspect to the Casino.

I serve as a liaison to the community for the Town of Mamakating Supervisor's office so I have a special regard for the importance of community involvement in government. I know we can increase transparency, public input and participation in Legislative meetings. By taking my place on the County Legislature, I will shine a spotlight and draw attention and action to Mamakating concerns, issues and advantages. Above all, I will serve as a voice for the people of District 4, because right now they have no voice.